

Instructions for Submission of Cultures Referred for Identification or Typing

Michigan Department of Community Health - Bureau of Laboratories

IMPORTANT: If the specimen is received leaking, not properly labeled, or with a test requisition either not completed or specimen label does not match test requisition, the specimen will not be tested.

Submission Requirements:

DO NOT SUBMIT CULTURES IN PETRI PLATES

1. **Aerobic Bacterial Cultures** are to be sent on the enriched medium most suitable for their growth. Do not use broth or semisolid media.
2. **Anaerobic Bacterial Cultures** are to be submitted in thioglycollate semisolid or cooked meat medium that is carbohydrate-free and serum enriched, if necessary. Overlay medium with about one inch of melted paraffin or 5% agar.
3. **Fungal-Like Cultures** are to be submitted on antibiotic-free Sabouraud's agar slants.
4. **Yeast-Like Cultures** are to be submitted on nutrient (or similar) agar slants.

Instructions:

1. **Label** your primary receptacle(s) (i.e., tubes) with the same name and specimen number used on the requisition(s) provided.
2. Tighten the primary receptacle cap and seal the cap on the primary receptacle with tape or parafilm - which is not provided in this Unit.
3. Place the primary receptacle(s), wrapped in the adsorbent material provided and enclosed in the plastic bag(s) provided, into **either** the plastic or aluminum screw-capped container provided and secure cap with tape.
4. Wrap completed test requisition(s) around the **outside** of the plastic or aluminum screw-capped container.
5. Place the aluminum container (if provided) into screw-capped paperboard container (if provided) and secure cap with tape – which is not provided in this unit.
6. Place the paperboard container containing the aluminum container **or** plastic container into the corrugated box provided.
7. Tape all seams on corrugated box.
8. **Complete** shipper information on corrugated box and the dangerous goods form provided. Attach dangerous goods form to the outside of the corrugated box using the envelope provided. **Do not seal** the envelope completely, as appropriate authorities may need to inspect the dangerous goods form.
9. Ship by the most rapid and convenient means available, i.e., courier, bus, U.S. Express Mail, using the Dangerous Goods form and Etiologic Agent/Infectious Substance materials provided.

The shipper is responsible for being sure that their package is in compliance with current regulations.